

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO SIGNET BANK OF MARYLAND

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Signet Bank of Maryland on its 200th anniversary of serving the Baltimore community. Originally established as the Bank of Baltimore on Christmas Eve 1795 by the Maryland General Assembly, Signet Bank of Maryland is the direct descendant of that original bank.

For two centuries, the Bank of Baltimore and its descendants have remained on the same site, at the heart and core of Baltimore. The bank has steered a steady and profitable course through the War of 1812, numerous financial panics of the 19th century, the Great Fire of Baltimore in 1904 and the Great Depression.

In 1985, Union Trust Bancorp, a descendant of the original Bank of Baltimore, and Bank of Virginia Co. merged to create a \$7 billion multibank institution. The name was changed to Signet Banking Corp. a year later. Presently, Signet Bank of Maryland is a full-service commercial bank with 87 locations throughout central Maryland, the Eastern Shore, and the Maryland suburbs of Washington DC. In offering specialized services for retail and commercial banking, international trade finance, trust, asset-based lending and leasing, cash management, real estate, insurance and consumer financing, Signet is an important contributor to the prosperity of Baltimore and Maryland.

A subsidiary of Signet Banking Corp., which is approximately a \$10 billion multibank holding company, Signet Bank of Maryland and its ancestors have been the financial home for many generations of Baltimoreans. Signet has shared in Maryland's rich history and there is little doubt that it will continue to be a major contributor to our community into the 21st century.

I hope my colleagues will join me in extending congratulations to Signet Bank of Maryland in celebrating its 200-year history in Maryland.

TRIBUTE TO THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MODESTO

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the League of Women Voters of Modesto for its 48 years of dedicated service to the voters of our community in the 18th Congressional District. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of the United States. During its historic past throughout our Nation, the league has encouraged the in-

formed and active participation of citizens in government as well as influenced public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters of Modesto under the leadership of its first president in 1947, Helen Pierce, to its current president, Julie Saugstad, has provided a driving force in our community to keep our voters abreast of the issues facing our local communities as well as the Nation. In the 1950's, the Modesto league began studying local government institutions under the leadership of Esther Beard Brack and Mary Johnson, founding members and former presidents. With the aid of former president, Thelma Van Overbeek, the league opened its first office. As the 1960's progressed, so did the league's involvement with issues on both the State and local levels. The work of then presidents Doris Scanlon and Irene Chadwick made it possible for the league to hold televised Candidate's Nights. In the 1970's, the league began holding a weekly television program to educate the community about pressing issues. In addition, it began printing its ever-popular Facts for Voters in both English and Spanish. At that time, the league worked under the direction of Connie Harris, Carole Davis, and Alita Roberts.

The league of Modesto continued its work in the 1980's by actively participating in local activities. Local member Kenni Friedman went on to become president of the League of Women Voters of California. Former local presidents, Myrtle Osner, Dorothy Schmidt, Jean Hamp, and Lisa Howard along with the rest of the members brought the league into the 1990's by their continued participation in government. The league can proudly reflect on two of its local members Councilmember Friedman of Modesto and Supervisor Pat Paul of Oakdale who have been elected to local government posts.

The league has continued its original mission of providing voter service and education by its candidates forums, production of Facts for Voters, and the lobbying of government bodies.

Mr. Speaker, on March 25, 1995, the League of Women Voters of Modesto will be recognized for its years of service at the Stanislaus County Commission for Women 16th Annual Outstanding Women Celebration. Since the inception of this annual event, 32 members of the league have been recognized as Outstanding Women.

I am proud to represent such fine members of our community as well as to recognize the league for its invaluable service.

INTRODUCTION OF PRESIDIO LEGISLATION

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing bipartisan legislation to create a Pre-

sidio Trust at the Presidio in San Francisco which is included in the national park system as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

I am pleased to be joined in this bipartisan effort by my colleague from California, Representative STEPHEN HORN, and by Representative BENJAMIN GILMAN from New York. These Members, from east to west, appreciate the national significance of the Presidio and the need for innovative ways to reduce Federal costs for its operations.

Presidio Trust legislation, H.R. 3433, was considered by the Congress in the last session where it passed the House and was reported by a 20 to 0 vote in Senate committee. It was not taken up by the full Senate in the final days of the session.

Creation of a Presidio Trust would enable Federal costs for this national park to be reduced considerably. The structure of the trust is based on the study of 19 management models by independent financial and real estate experts who determined that this legislative proposal would be successful in reducing costs to the Government.

The legislation calls for private-sector expertise and management of the Presidio's extensive nonpark properties. There are over 900 structures at the Presidio, almost half of which are historic. A significant number of these properties could be leased with revenues retained to support renovation and operation of the park's facilities.

A small board of planning and financial experts would direct the trust's activities and the National Park Service would continue its traditional management of resource protection and open-space park areas.

Today's legislation differs from H.R. 3433 in its provision for a smaller, more efficient board of experts, and its streamlined management structure. The bill's financing provisions are subject to appropriations and additional private or other financing possibilities are included.

A more detailed summary of the legislation is included below:

SUMMARY OF PRESIDIO TRUST LEGISLATION, 104TH CONGRESS

Background: The Presidio is a scenic and historic former Army post that is now included in the national park system as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Because the Presidio contains substantial building space, it offers an opportunity, unique within the national park system—to generate revenues from building leases. In order to realize the savings that this opportunity affords, a public-private management entity (Presidio Trust) with specialized financing and managerial expertise is needed.

The Presidio Trust would manage the renovation and leasing of specific Presidio properties transferred by the National Park Service. Ownership would be vested with the federal government and the Presidio would be operated as a national park with the Park Service continuing its traditional management of open space areas and visitor and public safety services.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

The Presidio Trust is based on studies of 19 management models by independent financial and real estate experts. The Trust would be equipped with the following authorities:

The Presidio Trust would have managerial jurisdiction over certain Presidio properties. It would manage the rehabilitation of these properties and would lease buildings to rent-paying tenants.

Revenues from leases would be retained and used to offset costs at the Presidio, driving operating costs down and reducing the need for federal appropriations.

Capital improvements would be financed primarily from private sources. The Trust could augment or leverage private lending through credit enhancement, direct loans, and bonding. Such financing would be subject to review and approval by the Treasury Department.

Oversight of the Trust would be achieved through routine reporting and auditing requirements.

The Trust would adhere to the enabling legislation for the GGNRA and the Presidio General Management Plan.

For nearly 150 years, the federal government has invested in the Presidio as an Army post. The best way to protect this asset is by creating a management and financial mechanism that will enable it to be used and to pay for itself.

The Presidio Trust offers a good government approach that recognizes fiscal realities and offers a less costly, more business-like approach to the management of important federal assets at the Presidio.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND RESCISSIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1158) making emergency supplemental appropriations for additional disaster assistance and making rescissions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995, and for other purposes:

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Chairman, during debate on the Young amendment to H.R. 1158 that restored funding for veterans' medical care and cut funding for the AmeriCorps national service program, it was charged that AmeriCorps is hurting military recruiting. This is an absolutely false charge concocted to justify an appalling amendment that pits veterans who served our country against young people serving their communities. There also is no evidence to support this charge. To refute this charge, I am submitting for the RECORD the following letter form Assistance Secretary of Defense for Force Management, Frederick Pang:

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,
Washington, D.C., March 15, 1995.

Hon. BOB STUMP,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. STUMP: I understand that you are considering introducing an amendment to reduce funding for national service based on testimony from Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Harold G. Overstreet. This letter provides the Department's position re-

garding the possible effects of national service on military recruiting.

During his testimony before the House Committee on National Security on March 7, Sergeant Major Overstreet discussed results from the Marine Corps' Youth Attitude and Awareness Study that suggested national service is a threat to military recruiting. This survey is administered twice a year to a sample of 800 unmarried men, ages 16-19 years, with no military service. In particular, Sergeant Major Overstreet indicated that 47 percent of the young men responding to the survey would consider enrolling in a national service program. He also said 56 percent of the respondents believed that national service offers a better way to obtain money for college than does the military.

Unfortunately, Sergeant Major Overstreet's testimony did not include all the salient facts about national service from the survey. When asked if they were aware of national service, only 11 percent of respondents answered yes. The percentages mentioned above came after the interviewers had explained national service to the respondents. The proportions who indicated awareness of national service in October 1993 and in February 1994 were 15 and 8 percent, respectively.

At yesterday's hearing before the Personnel Subcommittee of the Committee on National Security, the Chairman asked the Service Personnel Chiefs if national service was causing recruiting problems. Each stated unequivocally that national service has not had a negative impact on recruiting. In addition, I am told that Lieutenant General G.R. Christmas further indicated that the types of people attracted to national service were very unlikely to be interested in joining the Marine Corps.

While I share Sergeant Major Overstreet's concerns about future recruiting challenges, I believe he overstated the potential impact of national service on recruiting. Given the small size of the current national service program, the greater value of the military educational benefits (Montgomery GI Bill), and the greater depth of training available in today's Armed Forces, we maintain that military recruiting is in no danger from national service. Fiscal Year 1994 was the third best recruiting year in the history of the All-Volunteer Force. In terms of recruit quality, 96 percent of new enlistees were high school diploma graduates and 72 percent scored above average on the enlistment test. Recruiting also is going well in Fiscal Year 1995.

I appreciate the opportunity to clarify the Department's position on this issue.

Sincerely,

F. PANG.

ST. PETERSBURG INTERNATIONAL FOLK FAIR SOCIETY CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this weekend I had the opportunity to participate in the St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society's [SPIFFS] 20th annual International Folk Fair, one of our city's great annual traditions.

As in past years, thousands of people flocked to the Thunderdome, the future home of major league baseball's Tampa Bay Devil Rays, to sample the ethnic cuisines of 55 nationalities and to walk through the cultural exhibits of the SPIFFS world village.

It was in 1976 that Bethia Caffery, a former columnist for the St. Petersburg Evening Independent, brought together a small group of our community's prominent ethnic leaders to organize SPIFFS as part of the city of St. Petersburg's Bicentennial Celebration. Their early successes turned this small, loosely organized group into a full time organization that now provides year-round programs throughout Pinellas County and the Tampa Bay area. They have also become a tremendous resource for our local schools to educate students about the history and culture of countries around the world, large and small.

This year's fair included the colorful Ukrainian Academy of Dance from Toronto, Canada, and Step Dancers from Ireland. Additional entertainment was provided by the various local groups that comprise SPIFFS. For me, however, the significance of SPIFFS takes hold during the opening ceremonies where the flags of the nations of SPIFFS gather around the Stars and Stripes. It is then that each of us puts away ethnic political differences to join in giving thanks for the freedoms of America and to pledge allegiance to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I congratulate SPIFFS, its officers, and its societies for the contributions they have made to our community and to our country over these past 20 years. I salute them for their work, look forward to next year's fair, and thank the St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society for making their Representative in Congress proud of their efforts to educate each of us about our Nation's great ethnic diversity and heritage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, on March 15, I was recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as not voting during Rollcall Vote No. 241 although I was on the floor at that time and cast an "aye" vote. Evidently, a mechanical error led to this discrepancy. I have therefore submitted this statement so that my views on this matter are readily available to my constituents.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK CITY LANDMARKS LAW

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 30th anniversary of the New York City landmarks law, as well as the efforts of Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel and the New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation. On April 19, 1965, after years of seeing New York's building heritage destroyed, Mayor Robert Wagner signed the landmark law. It is because of this milestone legislation that New York City leads the Nation in the preservation of its landmarks.